

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

EB-07 MC-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 /065 W

----- 004153

R 271354Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 264

SECDEF ASD/ISA

INFO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 10010

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP, MASS, CG

SUBJECT: MILITARY TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM

REF: STATE 258756

1. HELPFUL GUIDANCE REFTEL ARRIVED AT PROPITIOUS MOMENT. WE HAVE CONVEYED GIST TO MOBUTU VIA DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL STAFF BISENGIMANA WHO EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AND SAID HE KNEW MOBUTU WOULD BE PLEASED.

2. EMBASSY/ZAMISH AGREE WITH OVERALL OBJECTIVES AND CAVEATS REFTEL AND WILL SEEK GOZ/DDN AGREEMENT TO TERMS OF REFERENCE.

3. EMBASSY/ZAMISH AGREE WITH SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF TEAM OUTLINED PARA 7(D) REFTEL. HOWEVER, GIVEN EXTREMELY PROTOCOLAIRE NATURE OF ZAIRIAN SOCIETY AND SENSITIVITY ON THIS SCORE, EMBASSY/ZAMISH STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT TEAM BE HEADED BY AT LEAST BRIGADIER GENERAL. TEAM LEADER WILL REQUIRE READY ACCESS TO SENIOR FAZ OFFICERS INCLUDING MOLONGYA WHO WAS RECENTLY PROMOTED TO MAJOR GENERAL AND WHO IS, IN EFFECT, ACTING MINISTER OF DEFENSE (ALTHOUGH MOBUTU RETAINS TITLE OF MIN/DEF). IN MY JUDGMENT, LACK
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OF GENERAL OFFICER WOULD GREATLY HANDICAP TEAM. MOREOVER,

IT WOULD LESSEN IMPACT OF POLITICAL MESSAGE THAT WITHIN
CLEAR CONGRESSIONAL AND POLICY RESTRAINTS, US IS
TRYING TO BE RESPONSIVE TO MOBUTU. THEREFORE, I URGE
THAT QUALIFIED GENERAL OFFICER BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR
RELATIVELY BRIEF PERIOD REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT THIS
MISSION.

4. EMBASSY/ZAMISH ALSO AGREE PROPOSED TIMING FOR
TEAM'S ARRIVAL AND TARGET DATE FOR FINISHED REPORT.
HINTON

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NNN

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